

**ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**  
**K.S.A. 82a-1901 through 82a-1905**  
**2002**

**K.S.A. 82a-1901. Orders of chief engineer; review.** (a) Orders of the chief engineer of the division of water resources of the department of agriculture pursuant to K.S.A. 42-703, 42-722, 42-722a, 82a-708b, 82a-711, 82a-718 and 82a-1038, and amendments thereto, and failure of the chief engineer to act pursuant to K.S.A. 82a-714, and amendments thereto, shall be subject to review in accordance with the provisions of the Kansas administrative procedure act.

Such review shall be conducted by the secretary of agriculture or by an administrative law judge or presiding officer from the office of administrative hearings within the department of administration. The secretary of agriculture shall not have the authority otherwise to designate a presiding officer to conduct such review.

(b) The order of the secretary of agriculture or the administrative law judge or presiding officer upon review pursuant to subsection (a) shall be a final order under the Kansas administrative procedure act. Such order shall not be subject to reconsideration pursuant to K.S.A. 77-529 and amendments thereto and shall be subject to review in accordance with the act for judicial review and civil enforcement of agency actions.

(c) This act shall not affect any administrative proceeding pending before the chief engineer of the division of water resources of the department of agriculture, the secretary of agriculture or any administrative hearing officer on July 1, 1999, and such matter shall proceed as though no change in the law had been made with regard to such proceeding.

(d) The provisions of this section shall take effect on and after July 1, 1999. **(History: L. 1999, ch. 130, § 10; May 6.)**

**K.S.A. 82a-1902. Same; office of administrative hearings.** (a) The office of administrative hearings within the department of administration shall contract with or employ administrative law judges or presiding officers, court reporters and other support personnel as necessary to conduct proceedings required by K.S.A. 1999 Supp. 82a-1901 and amendments thereto. Any administrative law judge or presiding officer contracted with or employed to conduct such proceedings shall be admitted to practice law in this state and shall be knowledgeable by training and experience in water policies and administrative procedure. For the purposes of this section, the office may employ regular part-time personnel. Persons employed by the office of administrative hearings pursuant to this section shall be under the classified civil service.

(b) The office of administrative hearings within the department of administration may establish and collect reasonable amounts for services provided pursuant to this section. **(History: L. 1999, ch. 130, § 11; May 6.)**

**K.S.A. 82a-1903. Rules and regulations of chief engineer; adoption of certain measures as rules and regulations.** (a) (1) On or before November 15, 1999, the chief engineer of the division of water resources of the department of agriculture, in accordance with K.S.A. 77-420 and amendments thereto, shall submit to the secretary of administration and the attorney general proposed rules and regulations containing all current standards, statements of policy and general orders that: (A) Have been issued or adopted by the chief engineer; (B) are of general application and have the effect of law; and (C) are not contained in current rules and regulations adopted by the chief engineer.

(2) If any standard, statement of policy or general order described in subsection (a) (1) is not submitted as required by subsection (a), such standard, statement of policy or general order shall be void and of no effect after November 15, 1999, until adopted by rules and regulations.

(b) (1) On or before March 1, 2000, each groundwater management district shall submit to the chief engineer of the division of water resources of the department of agriculture recommended rules and regulations containing all current standards, statements of policy and general orders that: (A) Have been issued or adopted by such district; (B) are of general application within the district and have the effect of law; and (C) are not contained in current rules and regulations adopted by the chief engineer.

(2) If any standard, statement of policy or general order described in subsection (b) (1) is not submitted as required by that subsection, such standard, statement of policy or general order shall be void and of no effect after March 1, 2000, until adopted by rules and regulations.

(c) Any standard, policy or order of a groundwater management district which is within the authority of the chief engineer, other than an administrative standard or policy relating to management of the district, shall be void and of no effect after January 1, 2003, unless adopted by rules and regulations of the chief engineer as provided by subsection (o) of K.S.A. 82a-1028, and amendments thereto. Any standard, policy or order of a groundwater management district which is within the authority of another state agency, other than an administrative standard or policy relating to management of the district, shall be void and of no effect after January 1, 2004, unless adopted by rules and regulations of such agency as provided by subsection (p) of K.S.A. 82a-1028, and amendments thereto. (**History:** L. 1999, ch. 130, § 12; L. 2002, ch. 137, § 7; July 1.)

**K.S.A. 82a-1904. Same; exemption from or waiver of rule and regulation.** The chief engineer of the division of water resources of the department of agriculture, for good cause shown, may grant an exemption from or waiver of a rule and regulation adopted by the chief engineer if the chief engineer determines that the exemption or waiver will not prejudicially or unreasonably affect the public interest and will not impair any existing water right. The exemption or waiver shall be in writing and shall include the reason for the exemption or waiver. (**History:** L. 1999, ch. 130, § 13; May 6.)

**K.S.A. 82a-1905. Same; review of proposed rules and regulations by secretary of agriculture.** Before any proposed rules and regulations of the chief engineer of the division of water resources of the department of agriculture are submitted to the secretary of administration or the attorney general pursuant to K.S.A. 77-420, and amendments thereto:

(a) The chief engineer shall submit such rules and regulations to the secretary of agriculture; and

(b) the secretary of agriculture shall review and make recommendations to the chief engineer regarding such proposed rules and regulations. (**History:** L. 1999, ch. 130, § 14; May 6.)